IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Examiner: Unassigned KINYA KATO ET AL. Group Art Unit: Unassigned Application No.: N.Y.A.-Based on Japanese Priority Appln Nos. 11-363832 and) 2000-181169 Filed: Concurrently Herewith For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR) PURIFYING POLLUTED SOIL, : AND APPARATUS FOR EMITTING CHLORINE-CONTAINING GAS AND APPARATUS FOR DECOMPOSING POLLUTED GAS) USING THE SAME December 20, 2000

Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 54 and 55 as follows:

54. (Amended) The apparatus for decomposing a polluted gas according to claim [52 or] 53, wherein the polluted soil-containing means or the stirring means is provided with a concentration-measuring means for measuring the concentration of a gas emitted from the polluted soil contained therein.

55. (Amended) The apparatus for decomposing a polluted gas according to claim [52 or] 53, wherein the heating means or the stirring means is controlled depending on the measured values of the concentration-measuring means for measuring the concentration of the gas emitted from the polluted soil.

REMARKS

The claims are 1-62, with claims 1, 2, 27, 28 and 40 being independent. Claims 54 and 55 have been amended in order to correct improper dependancies. No new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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